



"Bermuda Yellow Mutabilis"
Photo by Stephen Hoy

Singularly Beautiful Roses

A Publication Dedicated to Single,
Nearly Single, and Semi-Double Flowered Roses
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Reachin', Ramblin' & Scramblin' - lightly.petaled.red.clambering.roses

Part 1

The genesis of this article goes back to one of the first rose shows I ever attended and coincides with my “discovery” of single-flowered roses. On that spring Saturday in 1982 both my visual and olfactory senses caused me to zero in on a blue-ribbon specimen of ‘Dainty Bess.’ After more exploration a similarly formed red-flowered exhibit also captured my attention – a dazzling spray of the stunning Large Flowered Climber ‘Altissimo.’ Despite the deluge of new rose introductions that have emerged in the ensuing thirty-plus years both of these varieties continue to grace the gardens of rose enthusiasts – perhaps never surpassed in their respective horticultural classes.

Of course, no roses are actually “climbing” in the truest botanical sense of the term. The following brief list includes varieties that by virtue of their prickles climb, ramble, scramble, clamber, arch, and fountain in a rather vertical fashion – are single or nearly single-flowered – and are simply. . . red. The list has been organized in chronological order. Further, its compilation was not constrained by “official” rules of classification. Some cultivars included have more or less disappeared from commerce or are inaccessible to growers world-wide because of restrictions on the importation of plant material, however bear mention as members of a distinct set of roses.



‘Gloire des Rosomanes’
Photo Unattributed

Our chronicle begins in the early 19th century in the French city of Lyon. A new remontant rose imported from the island of Reunion (also known as the *Isle de Bourbon*), ‘Rose Edouard,’ had sparked the interest of French hybridizers. An enthusiast known to us today only as Monsieur Plantier, was among hybridizers attempting to raise reblooming roses using ‘Rose Edouard.’ Among a small group of “mixed remontant seedlings” appeared a sweetly fragrant, semi-double, velvety crimson rose. The plant was vigorous and upright, but what must have really intrigued Mons. Plantier was its magnificent reblooming disposition. Moved to enthralled catalog-speak he named it ‘Gloire des Rosomanes,’ roughly translated “Glory of Rose-Maniacs.” It was released to commerce in 1825 by nurseryman Jean-Pierre Vibert.

Almost one hundred years after its introduction its attributes were still viewed favorably. English rose enthusiast and exhibitor Walter Easlea commented, “A bed of this variety in autumn gives us a delightful brilliancy, so much appreciated at this season of the year (1919 *Rose Annual*, p. 76).” It was valued as an outstanding candidate for training as a pillar or for growing on fences and espaliers.

Around the beginning of the 20th century commercial California rose growers began using ‘Gloire des Rosomanes’ as a rootstock variety, now having been given the rather unfortunate Americanized moniker

'Ragged Robin.' Its popularity led in the 1920's to a massed planting of the rose in the median of Victoria Avenue in Riverside, California.

The genetic background of 'Gloire des Rosomanes' is unresolved. Some have speculated that it has *obvious* China influence, others dispute that thinking. Whatever the derivation, it became a foundational rose; more than 12,000 descendants are listed on HelpMeFindRoses.com including: 'Général Jacqueminot,' 'Gruss an Teplitz,' and 'Crimson Glory.'

An offspring of 'Gloire des Rosomanes' that also serves extremely well as a candidate for a pergola or pillar is 'Bardou Job.' Raised by Gilbert Nabonnand in 1882 it was introduced to commerce five years later. A cross of 'Gloire des Rosomanes' x 'Général Jacqueminot,' it has been variously classed as a Bourbon, a Hybrid Tea, and a Climbing Tea. The "not quite single" velvety, black-shaded crimson rose is very upright growing and possesses a strong fragrance. The filaments are dark red causing the golden anthers to stand out quite noticeably. It is often described as more elegant in character than its seed parent. Australian rose hybridizer Alister Clark enthusiastically recommended this variety, likely accounting for its availability to rose gardeners "down under." A clone tentatively id'd as 'Bardou Job' was thought to have been discovered growing at Alcatraz, but recent examination and comparison have led to well-reasoned doubts regarding that identification.



'Bardou Job' – Photo by Billy Teabag

'Carmine Pillar' – Photo Unattributed

In 1895 George Paul of Paul and Son introduced 'Carmine Pillar,' a tall growing seedling out of the dark red Hybrid Perpetual 'Gloire de Margottin.' It is assumed by many to have *Rosa multiflora* genes in it based on its vigorous habit of growth (10' – 12'), but is variously classed as a Climbing Hybrid Tea, a Hybrid China, or a Hybrid Multiflora. British rose enthusiast (and V.P. of the National Rose Society) H. R. Darlington stated unequivocally that "This rose is a Hybrid Tea of very vigorous growth . . . (1911 *NRS Annual*, p. 59)." It flowers early in the season with little to no repeat. The nearly single large cherry red flowers have a small white eye and although it is rare in commerce 'Carmine Pillar' can be found in some gardens in Europe. A quote from *The Gardener's Chronicle*, published in June of 1922 stated the following, "Amongst the first to bloom [climbing roses] was 'Carmine Pillar' (syn. 'Paul's Carmine Pillar'), a splendid early rose for furnishing pillars, arches and pergolas, and one of the earliest of all



roses if grown against a warm wall. The habit is strong and free, and a well grown specimen gives a profusion of the big, single carmine-scarlet blossoms (p. 333)."



'Hiawatha' - Photo by Vernon H. Brown

George C. Thomas, Jr. - banker, rose breeder, golf course designer, WWI aviator, dog breeder, sport fisherman, and author.



Welshman Michael Walsh moved to the United States in 1875. After becoming the head gardener on the estate of Joseph S. Fay in Woods Hole, Massachusetts he developed a very successful rose business primarily dedicated to new Rambler hybrids derived from *R. multiflora* and *R. wichuraiana*. Well-known rosarian and author of *Climbing Roses of the World*, Charles Quest-Ritson estimates that Walsh introduced roughly forty Ramblers. Among a group of three named for characters from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's *Song of Hiawatha*, is . . . 'Hiawatha (1904),' a seedling of 'Crimson Rambler' (a Hybrid Multiflora). The 1913 *Biltmore Catalog* described it as having "bright ruby-red petals shading to pure white at the base (p. 60)." The single flowers are small but carried in impressive sprays of twenty or more blooms. The plant is equally imposing in size, often growing to fifteen feet.

Circa 1895 two Philadelphia residents formed an alliance that would have a unique impact on the world of roses. Interestingly, a common interest in showing and breeding English Setters may have actually been the genesis of their friendship. In or around 1905 Dr. Robert Huey, a veteran of the Civil War, dentist, and dedicated rose enthusiast, shared a gift of rose bushes with wealthy young banker George C. Thomas, Jr. Dissatisfied that the roses of that day did not measure up to their catalog descriptions Thomas set about breeding roses in 1912 with a goal of producing everblooming climbing roses and better garden varieties. His first introductions were hybridized at the family's Bloomfield Farm. In 1914 a dark red once-blooming seedling resulted from a cross of 'Ethel,' a light pink Hybrid Wichuraiana, and the scarlet 'Gruss an Teplitz,' a vigorous Hybrid Tea (descended from 'Gloire des Rosomanes!'). It and several other seedlings were sent to the Rutherford, New Jersey nursery firm Bobbink & Atkins for evaluation where their commercial introduction was delayed for several years by the commencement of the First World War in 1914.

Although WWI had a devastating effect on the commercial rose industry, Thomas continued to

expand his garden by purchasing a broad spectrum of cultivars of all types, evaluating them for the American Rose Society, and publishing his first book on roses, *The Practical Book of Outdoor Rose-Growing*. In 1917 he volunteered to join the war effort in France. While there, he took time to pen an article for the ARS that was published in the 1919 *Annual*, “Wayside Roses in France” (p. 93).

Early in 1919 Captain Thomas returned to his home in Philadelphia. On June 4th of that year he and his wife entertained the executive committee of the American Rose Society at their home. During the meeting Thomas dedicated seedling number 720, the aforementioned dark red hybrid to his mentor Dr. Robert Huey. Dubbed ‘Dr. Huey,’ the rose was *glowingly* described as “An absolutely unique Rose in every respect. The color is an intense dark crimson-scarlet . . . The flowers are large, semi-double, and so closely spaced on the plant in its June burst of bloom as almost to conceal the excellent foliage . . . It can be treated as a pillar, but its 10-foot canes will climb anywhere” (1925 Conard-Pyle Spring Catalog).



‘Dr. Huey’ – Photo by Carolyn Parker
See “From the Editor” for compelling info about Dr. Robert Huey!!

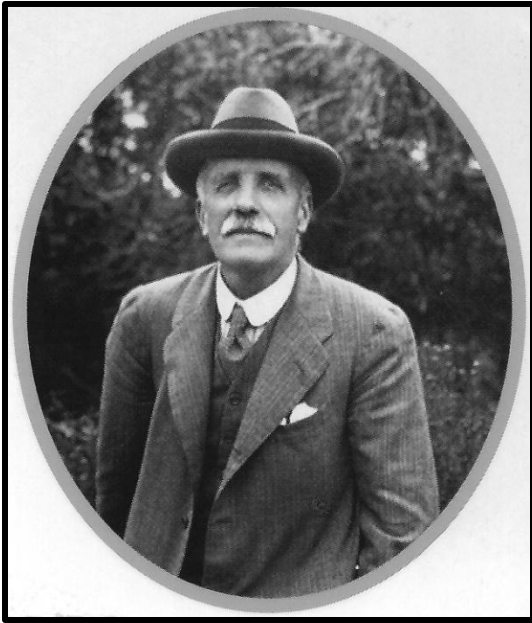
Later that year Thomas moved to Hollywood, California where he continued to breed roses and establish an extensive garden of southwestern native plants.

An event that occurred several decades later led to a startling renaissance for the variety. The most accurate account appears in an article written by Armstrong Nursery hybridizer Herb Swim in the 1947 *ARS Annual* (p. 157-159). In short, cuttings of ‘Dr. Huey’ had been inadvertently substituted for cuttings of ‘Ragged Robin (‘Gloire des Rosomanes’) planted as understock in their growing fields. Noticeable differences in vigor were observed especially when used as a rootstock for “weaker growing varieties.” By 1947 Mr. Swim noted that about one half of all roses grown in California were budded on ‘Dr. Huey.’

Now the variety is generally eschewed due to susceptibility to multiple fungus diseases. In fact, very few of Captain Thomas’s cultivars have survived the rigors of time. [Ed. note; expect to see more about the interesting life of George Thomas, Jr. in the future.]

Literally on the other side of the earth an Australian rose enthusiast was similarly making rose history. Alister Clark (1864-1949) was the son of a successful cattleman who had emigrated from Scotland. After his father’s untimely death in 1873 he and his sisters were cared for locally for several years and then sent back to Scotland to be raised by family. In 1883 Clark was enrolled at Cambridge University. After earning a Bachelor’s degree he entered law school at Cambridge. While there he acquired an interest in horticulture that

changed his life. Clark graduated in 1892, returned to his home in Australia, and purchased Glenara, then a thousand acre homestead, from his father's estate.



Alister Clark

Alister Clark began ordering roses to beautify his family homestead and immediately recognized the need for new hybrids that could endure and thrive in the Australian climate. An early goal was to incorporate the genes of *Rosa gigantea*, notable for its vigor and heat tolerance, into his seedlings.

Ten years into his hybridizing efforts Clark released the single-flowered, medium red, once-blooming 'Scorcher' (1922). In its day the color was quite a standout. An early catalog description read, "This Rose is of such an unusually brilliant flaming colour that in Mr. Alister Clark's garden it compelled instant attention . . . It is a magnificent grower, with beautiful rich green foliage, which is absolutely mildew-proof" (1922 Hazelwood Bros. Pty. Ltd. catalog, p. 6). The parentage is given as 'Mme. Abel Chatenay,' a very popular pink Hybrid Tea, x unknown. Many early hybrids of this sort were initially thought of as Hybrid Teas - some considered this variety a Hybrid Gigantea. However, Australian rose-grower and author of *A Hillside of Roses* Susan Irvine, states that notes kept by Clark's head gardener indicate that the unknown pollen parent was *R. moyesii*. A comment lending some credence to that

remark was made by Clark in the 1941 *Australian Rose Annual* indicating that he indeed did some breeding with *R. moyesii* as a pollen parent. Having presented the speculation of many, 'Scorcher' has officially been classed as a Hybrid Wichuraiana.



'Scorcher'
Photo by Stephen Hoy



'Allen Chandler'
Photo by Stephen Hoy

Not much has been discovered about the breeder of the next rose, a Mr. Allen Chandler. It appears he was an amateur rosarian/hybridizer known by Englishman George Prince, owner of Prince's Oxford Roses, located in Longworth, Berkshire. Known primarily as a rose grower and exhibitor, George Prince introduced the hybrids of other breeders. His son Alfred eventually assumed the responsibility of running the business and in 1923 chose to introduce a dazzling red seedling brought to him by Mr. Chandler. Originally classed as a Hybrid Tea, 'Allen Chandler' is now recognized as a Climbing Hybrid Tea, in fact a very vigorous one. The nearly single and relatively large blooms are a brilliant crimson and are born one-to-a-stem or in clusters of three. It is a seedling of 'Hugh Dickson,' a red Hybrid Perpetual (descended from . . . 'Gloire des Rosomanes'). Although rare in commerce now, the reblooming climber was at one time quite popular, and considered a valuable addition to the rose garden.

Another 1923 introduction came from rose gardener and exhibitor extraordinaire, the Rev. Joseph H. Pemberton. After retiring from service as an Anglican curate he dedicated himself fully to hybridizing, intending to create roses that reminded him of his grandmother's favorites and yet out-bloomed them. Using Peter Lambert's 'Trier,' Pemberton's first introductions were 'Danae' and 'Moonlight.' He initially classified them as Hybrid Teas because of his use of some of the "top gun" exhibition varieties of the day as pollen or seed parents, i.e. 'Ophelia,' 'Liberty,' 'Sunburst,' and 'Chateau Clos de Veugeot.' Eventually he began promoting them as Hybrid Musks referencing the *R. moschata* lineage passed along through one of the Noisettes used to produce 'Trier.' As mentioned, in 1923 Pemberton raised a seedling resulting from a cross of presumably one of his own Hybrid Musk-type seedlings with the intoxicatingly fragrant, velvety red 'Chateau de Clos Veugeot.' Its name, 'Nur Mahal,' demands the telling of a tale.



'Nur Mahal' – Photo by Linda Joe

A fourth generation descendant of Mongol leader

Genghis Khan, Shah Jahangir, became ruler of a region that comprises much of modern day eastern Iran, Pakistan, and northern India in 1605. Six years into his reign he fell in love with Mihri Beg, a young girl of Persian descent. Because she was not of noble birth and a "daughter of the vanquished," custom prohibited him from marrying her. Years later, however, she returned to Agra, his capitol, a widow. The shah, disregarding tradition, took her as his eighteenth wife. To distinguish herself she presented him with a silver flask from which she decanted an exquisitely scented perfume. Because of her Persian heritage she was most likely familiar with the ancient process of extracting oil skimmed from rose water known as "attar of roses." Her gift was so cherished the shah renamed her Nur Mahal – "Light of the Palace."

The inspiration for the naming of the rose arose from his familiarity with a novel published in 1918 by English author Flora Annie Steel entitled *Mistress of Men*. Having lived and served alongside her husband in India for twenty-two years, many of Steel's literary works were focused on aspects of Indian culture, folklore,



'Bloomfield Courage'
Photo by Val Bedford

In the early 1920's the English rose firm, William Paul & Son of Waltham Cross, was purchased by its foreman, one of seven brothers known only to posterity as the Chaplin Brothers. The business, however, was ruled with a firm hand by their father, W. E. Chaplin (1851-?) a gruff old gentleman in his 70's. In 1931 the Chaplin Brothers discovered a climbing sport of Alexander Dickson's dark red single-flowered Hybrid Tea 'Red Letter Day.' Named 'Crimson Conquest,' the rose defied classification. It was indeed a sport of a Hybrid Tea, but had the growth habit of some of the Ramblers the Chaplin Brothers were introducing during that same time period. *Modern Roses II* lists it as a Large-flowered Climber, while later versions

'Crimson Conquest' - Photo by Stephen Hoy

and history. *Mistress of Men* is a retelling of the tale of young Mihri Beg [Nur Mahal] and also a cultural statement concerning the apt capabilities of women to function in the realms of politics and governance.

A 1925 Captain Thomas introduction that has remained in commerce is 'Bloomfield Courage.' It is one of over forty varieties whose name honors his family's Bloomfield estate near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Along with the aforementioned 'Hiawatha,' this cultivar combines the genes of *R. wichuraiana* and 'Crimson Rambler.' Australian rose authority Patricia Routley's description is one of the best, "The blackish scarlet, five-petaled flowers are only about 3cm (1.5") wide but the plant is so floriferous that it is literally covered with blossom like dark crimson butterflies (*Karri Pigeon*, August 2008, p. 10)." The blooms arrive in substantial clusters much like 'Hiawatha.' One distinguishable trait of the Thomas hybrid, however, is its scarcity of prickles. 'Bloomfield Courage' is extremely vigorous, with long pliable canes often reaching over twenty feet. Because it can easily overwhelm a pergola it is a great candidate for growing up a tree or along a lengthy fence row.



classed it as a Climbing Hybrid Tea. *MR 12* lists it as a Hybrid Wichuraiana. My personal speculation is based on an early Andorra Nurseries catalog description of several other Dickson roses known as “the Irish Singles.” ‘Irish Beauty,’ ‘Irish Modesty,’ and ‘Irish Glory’ were classed as Hybrid Wichuraianas due to climbing or vigorous habits of growth. ‘Red-Letter Day’s parentage is unknown as is that of all the early Dickson single H.T’s due to a fire that destroyed company records. *Perhaps* the rambler-like characteristics of ‘Crimson Conquest’ are easily explained based on the supposition that Dickson used *R. wichuraiana* in the development of the Irish singles? The current genetic guidelines for determining a rose’s classification would seem to support classifying it as a Climbing Hybrid Tea since its parent is so classified. Despite the uncertainty, the semi-double flower is velvety crimson with occasional white streaks in its petals, and is somewhat loose in form. It blooms in small clusters and with disease resistant foliage. Unlike its parent it possesses a fruity fragrance.



Clockwise from above:

‘Eva’ – Photo by Joe O’Connell

‘Skyrocket’ – Photo by Urszula Jretowska

‘Hamburg’ – Photo unattributed



The Kordes family really needs very little introduction. Wilhelm Kordes II was a studious, analytical hybridizer, keenly interested in the genetic background of the roses he used in his breeding. Just one of the numerous rose classes to which he made significant contributions were the Hybrid Musks.

Utilizing the cherry-red Pemberton hybrid, ‘Robin Hood,’ and the glowing crimson Hybrid Tea, ‘J. C. Thornton,’ Kordes introduced ‘Eva’ in 1933 and ‘Skyrocket’ (originally named ‘Wilhelm’) in 1934. One year later he released ‘Hamburg,’ a seedling from ‘Eva.’ About the origin of these roses he later wrote, “I began to hybridize with a dwarf but extremely free flowering Musk rose of Pemberton’s, ‘Robin Hood.’ This gave some seedlings with larger flowers, hardy and making bushes up to three or four feet high and with a real crop of blooms in the late summer. Some of these seedlings notably ‘Eva’ and ‘Hamburg’ were used again for breeding.

From these we got a real strain of perpetual bush roses that could be used for hedges or as specimen plants or in the border as small groups (1955 *Australian Rose Annual*, p. 60).” Among the variety of seedlings raised from ‘Eva,’ was ‘München (1940),’ named to honor the Bavarian city of Munich.

Although not technically thought of as climbing roses each of the four easily attain a height and width of six feet or more in climates warmer than Kordes’ northern German environs. ‘Eva’ and ‘Skyrocket’ are known for their very large trusses of 2-3” semi-double, cherry-red blooms with white centers. Both are widely available to growers on multiple continents. ‘Hamburg’ and ‘München’ also bloom in clusters, but individual flowers are slightly larger and darker red in color. Both appear to be unavailable commercially except in Europe.

Fast forward to the decade after the Second World War. Englishman Edward Burton Legrice had begun his own rose business in 1920.

TO BE CONTINUED . . . TO BE CONTINUED . . .



‘München’ – Photo by Lynette Payne

A Rose Does Not Preach . . .
It Simply Spreads Its Fragrance

Pretty in Pink With 'Lashes That Wink

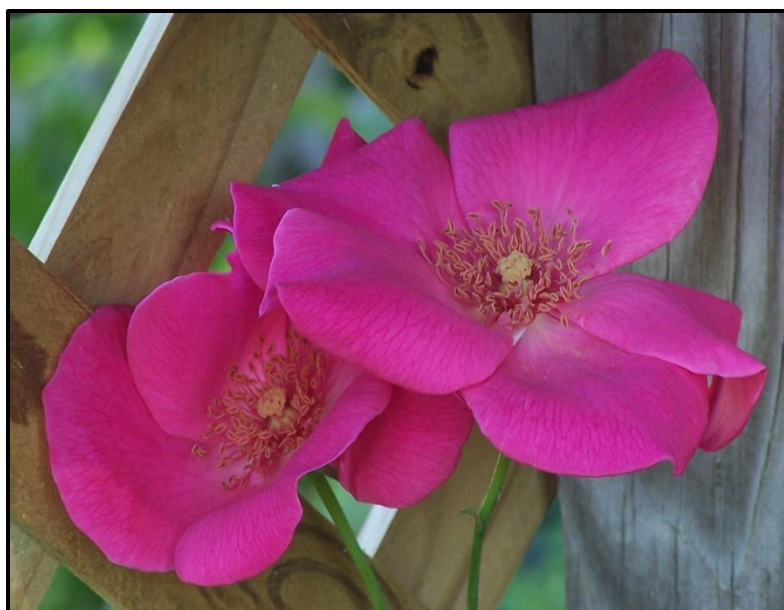


In the first edition of *Singularly Beautiful Roses* an article I wrote entitled, “A Man and His Women: Affairs of the Heart,” highlighted the hybridizing efforts of William Edward Basil Archer. Uniquely, for the 1920’s, Archer’s business partner was his daughter Muriel, a successful rose exhibitor in classes that called for “Table Arrangements.” Another curious fact about Mr. Archer is that his most enduring rose introductions are all named for women – most famously the Hybrid Tea that immortalized his wife – ‘Dainty Bess.’ About one of the alluring characteristics of that rose I wrote, “The striking splash of garnet red filaments gaudily contrast with the bloom’s subtle shade of pink, giving this rose an appeal that transcends the objections that some have regarding the lack of petals.” Her appeal is further enhanced by a deliciously scented perfume. ‘Dainty Bess’s’ popularity was dramatically boosted after being voted the “Best Rose in Show” at a Toronto, Canada exhibit in 1931. She remains the most popular single-flowered Hybrid Tea! My . . . what pretty eyes you have!

‘Dainty Bess’ Photo by Al Whitcomb

‘Frances Ashton’ Photo by Stephen Hoy

Stocking Rose Nursery founded by Clyde Stocking in San Jose, California was one of the great California rose sources. The business introduced a single Hybrid Tea in 1937 named ‘Frances Ashton’ hybridized by a Tacoma, Washington rose enthusiast, Dr. Hiram DePuy. It has never attained the popularity of many other single Hybrid Teas despite comparing very favorably. A memorable compliment, however, was paid by an Oklahoma rosarian in the 1940 *American Rose Annual* recognizing it as “a single rose that steps up to ‘Dainty Bess,’ looks it in the eye, and doesn’t give an inch (p. 199).” The bush is upright growing and produces long cutting stems. The substance-rich, rose-pink blooms, appearing singly and in clusters of two or three, are offset by bold ruby-red stamens.





'Poulsen's Pearl' - Photo by Anna Davis

A variety that was extremely popular in my early rose-gardening days comes from the Poulsen family's prolific catalog of roses – 'Poulsen's Pearl.' Raised from one of their tremendously successful Floribunda/Hybrid Polyanthas, 'Else Poulsen,' it was introduced in 1949 just as European rose firms were struggling to recover from the devastation of World War II. One of my great rose friends, Anna Davis, grew this rose to perfection, often bringing amazingly large sprays to rose shows here in Georgia. Its pearly-pink single flowers shine as if glazed and are highlighted by rose-pink filaments tipped with gold filigreed anthers.

Fred Howard (1873-1948) is among the most famous American hybridizers in rose history. Having begun in the nursery business in 1890 he and his business partner George W. Smith specialized in a broad spectrum of flowering plants - cannas, dahlias, carnations, geraniums, gerberas, and amaryllis to name but a handful. Some of his roses that were commercial successes include: 'Los Angeles,' 'The Doctor,' 'Will Rogers,' and 'California Centennial.' Fellow Montebello, CA resident Alfred Krebs convinced Howard to market one of his rose seedlings, 'White Wings,' in 1947. Howard must have made a number of crosses with the red stamened standout before his death in 1948. One of those seedlings, out of *Rosa rugosa* 'Thunbergii,' possessed at least two very desirable traits from its parents – intense fragrance and dark maroon-red stamens. Roughly a decade passed before it was offered commercially in the fall 1956 *Wayside Gardens Catalog*. Classed as a Hybrid Rugosa, 'Flamingo' is a large growing, long stemmed, cluster flowering, highly perfumed, yard ornament that is indeed "pretty in pink!"



'Flamingo' - Photo by Robert Rippetoe

The commercial profile of Canadian hybridized rose varieties is on the rise in the U.S. The Morden and Parkland series from western Canada and the Explorer series from eastern Canada each have outstanding cultivars that have been embraced by rose growers everywhere and these cold-hardy roses can even be found here in the Deep South. I am growing several of the Canadian Artist series and consider them “keepers.” The roses of one Canadian hybridizer, Joyce Fleming, are, however, in danger of being lost to commerce. Her work with roses took place in a region known as the Niagara Peninsula in the province of Ontario (think just north of Niagara Falls - on the south-west bank of Lake Ontario). Striving to produce disease and insect resistant rose varieties hardy in Climate Zone 5A, Joyce’s first seedlings flowered in 1985. ‘Amelia Fleming,’ the variety featured here, was introduced in 1995. The fragrant light pink single-flowered blooms frequently appear in clusters of five or more each decorated with pinkish-purple stamens. The bush is upright in growth, healthy, and produces long cutting stems.



‘Amelia Fleming’ – Photo by Stephen Hoy

The All-America Rose Selections program was initiated in 1938 to introduce and promote exceptional roses to the American rose-growing public. Europe had for centuries been the epicenter of horticultural advancement, immeasurably enriched by a vast influx of Asian flora. It was time for Uncle Sam to step up to the plate and assume the role of . . . ROSE super power. Whether or not the AARS achieved its goal of giving the award to deserving rose varieties is another discussion. As a marketing strategy, an AARS designation was usually an economic success. In 1998 four roses were named AARS award winners – ‘Opening Night,’ a dark red Hybrid Tea, ‘Sunset Celebration,’ an apricot Hybrid Tea and already an award winner in Europe and New Zealand, ‘Fame!,’ a shocking pink Floribunda, and ‘First Light,’ a compact, single-flowered pink Shrub. The last was hybridized by the husband and wife team of Stanley G. and Jeanne A. Marciel. Jeanne was a daughter of Paul DeVor, founder of DeVor Nurseries, a leading florist rose producer. She, her husband, and other family members



‘First Light’ – Photo by Stephen Hoy

purchased the family-owned business in 1977 and introduced numerous cut-flower rose varieties - Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, and what they referred to as Sweetheart Roses - to the trade. 'First Light' is unique among the DeVor roses, as it is primarily considered a landscape variety. The *1997-1998 Weeks Roses Wholesale Catalog* description reads, "The 1998 AARS award winning Shrub is the dawning of a different light in landscape roses . . . Loads of single-petalled clear pink beauties perch perfectly atop the sparkling clean green foliage, *winking up at you* with charming burgundy stamens (p. 47)." I find it to be relatively black spot resistant and a great container variety due to its compact habit of growth.

Curiously, both 'First Light' and the next variety, 'The Charlatan,' are offspring of the wonderful Meilland rose 'Bonica' (the first Shrub rose to win an AARS award!). Originally introduced in 2006 in France as 'Astronomia,' Star Roses changed the name upon its American debut. The multitude of blush pink to white single blooms this rose produces in one flush is indeed constellation-like in number. In my garden they cover the plant like a canopy - practically hiding the foliage. It has inherited a fair measure of good health and has won numerous awards in rose trials. I've not seen a hint of its reported tendency to get larger in warm climates, however I grow it in a large container.



'The Charlatan' – Photo by HMF member Judith C.

I can only speak for myself, but who can resist a wink from something pretty in pink?

From the Editor

Let me please apologize for the extended period between this and the last issue. Mid-summer I was contacted by my editors at Mercer University Press and asked to make substantial changes to the manuscript I had submitted months earlier. Additionally, their previous attempts to communicate with me had been lost somewhere in the wild blue yonder of the internet so they had interpreted my silence as unprofessional indifference. O . . . the yin and yang of the creative process! Four hundred plus footnotes reformatted, bibliography with hundreds of sources reformatted, every date rewritten according to a different style requirement, military ranks written sans abbreviations . . . I could go on. However, I've found I love research. The history of Camp Oglethorpe and the men on both sides of the conflict will continue to be an on-going quest. Speaking of which, I just came across an interesting tidbit of information that I will be following up on more thoroughly. Dr. Robert Huey, immortalized in rose history, was a prisoner-of-war during the Civil War

and briefly held in Macon at Camp Oglethorpe. Pictures, letters, and a hand-written diary kept during his service exist and I am in hot pursuit.

Lastly, I must mention that a recent peek in the refrigerator yielded a thrill – germinating rose seedlings! A no-longer-in-commerce David Austin variety, Ann, is giving me a line that is extremely black spot and cercospora resistant. I've rooted cuttings from one of its offspring and am preparing that variety to be entered in a rose trials program in 2018.

Sources & Contact Information

'Gloire des Rosomanes' – A Reverence for Roses, Angel Gardens, Rogue Valley Roses, Rose Petals Nursery, Europe, Australia
'Bardou Job' – Europe, Australia (rose is U.S. is misidentified)
'Carmine Pillar' – Europe?
'Hiawatha' – High Country Roses, Rogue Valley Roses, Europe, Australia
'Dr. Huey' – you probably already have it
'Scorcher' – Antique Rose Emporium, Roses Unlimited, Australia
'Allen Chandler' – Europe
'Nur Mahal' – A Reverence for Roses, Angel Gardens, Antique Rose Emporium, Greenmantle Nursery, Long Ago Roses, Rose Petals Nursery, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand
'Bloomfield Courage' – Roses Unlimited, Europe, Australia, New Zealand
'Crimson Conquest' – Europe, New Zealand
'Eva' – Angel Gardens, Greenmantle Nursery, Rose Petals Nursery, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand
'Skyrocket' – A Reverence for Roses, Angel Gardens, Antique Rose Emporium, Burlington Rose Nursery, Greenmantle Nursery, Long Ago Roses, Rogue Valley Roses, Rose Petals Nursery, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand
'Hamburg' – Europe?
'Munchen' – Europe, Australia
'Dainty Bess' – too many to list
'Frances Ashton' – Burlington Rose Nursery, Roses Unlimited
'Poulsen's Pearl' – Burlington Rose Nursery, Roses Unlimited
'Flamingo' – Rogue Valley Roses, Europe
'Amelia Fleming' – ?
'First Light' – Roses Unlimited, Sam Kedem Nursery & Garden, Canada
'The Charlatan' – Angel Gardens, Garden Valley Ranch, Heirloom Roses, Star Roses, Europe

Singularly Beautiful Roses

Editor: Stephen Hoy
223 Sentry Oaks Dr.
Warner Robins, GA 31093
hoy127@cox.net

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